present 5 per cent or 100 whichever is minimum.

(e) Rate of pension to the retiring blind employees keeping in view the fact that they get the job at a very later stage.

(f) Blind employees employed as Chair recanners be given the technical grade.

(g) All blind employees employed on daily wages or are on adhoc appointment be regularised.

(I) The National Institute for the Visually handicapped Dehra Dun be converted from registered society to Government Institute. The affairs of the NIVH Dehra Dun be also probed into through CBI.

(J) Braille press be established in each state.

(K) With a view to promoting self-employment for the blind, a separate bank Loan Scheme for the blind be initiated and Soft Loans be given to them upto the limit of 1,00,000 (one lakh).

(L) A percentage of agencies/dealership of the items like petroleum products, L.P.G., Cement, etc. be reserved for the blind.

(M) A permanent identity card be issued to every blind to avail concessions/facilities announced from time to time by Central/State/Union Territories.

(N) The scholarship for the visually handicapped students be revised after every three years keeping in view the cost increase. The decision to discontinue to the inmates of Government Hostel and the persons persuing studies after M.A be withdrawn and it should be given to them as was done at past.

(O) All Institutions for the blind which are in existence for the last three years be given grant-in-aid to make them more effective and self sufficient.

(P) The Delhi Administration be directed to create regular post of Tabla accompanists and the blind presently working against the said temporary post be regularised.

Import and Export of Sugar

2398. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar required for consumption in the country every year;

(b) what is the annual production of sugar in the country at present;

(c) what is the quantity of sugar in the buffer stock of sugar with Government;

(d) the quantity of sugar exported during last three years, each year;

(e) the quantity of sugar imported during last three years, each year;

(f) the names of countries where sugar was exported and the names of the countries from where the sugar was imported;

(g) the foreign exchange earned from export of sugar and foreign exchange spent on the import of sugar;

(h) whether any steps have been taken to make India self-sufficient in the matter of sugar; and

(i) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The estimated requirement of sugar for internal consumption and annual sugar production during 1986-87 season is 87 and 85 lakh tonnes respectively.

There would be sufficient stock of sugar at the end of the current 1986-87 season to meet the internal requirement during the initial months of the next season.

(d) to (g) As per the information received from the State Trading Corporation of India, the quantities of sugar exported, imported, foreign exchange earned and spent and the countries involved during the last three financial years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87, are as under:—

Financial Year	Quantity exported (lakh tonnes)	F.O.B. Value (Rs./ Crores)	Quantity imported (lakh tonnes)	C.I.F. Value (Rs./ Crores)
1984-85	1·55	36·04	4·85	110·9
1985-86	0·41	19·37	20.22	446.8
1986-87	0·34*	18·48*	££7·81*	210.4

*—Provisional

££—This includes goods in transit as on 31-3-1987.

During the financial year 1984-85 sugar was exported to EFC, Egypt, Kuwait, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Somalia, Saudi Arabia and Nepal. During the financial year 1985-86 and 1986-87 the export of sugar was restricted to meet the preferential EC and U.S. Quotas. Besides small quantities were also exported to Nepal and Maldives.

During the last three financial years, sugar was imported mainly from Brazil, Cuba, China, EEC, Czecholsovakia, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Poland, Philippines, S. Korea, Thailand, Malaysia, Mauritius and USA.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) Following steps have been initiated during 1986-87 sugar season to increase sugar production:—

(i) Increase in statutory minimum price of sugar cane payable by sugar factories to Rs. 17 per quintal linked to a basic recovery of 8.5 per cent with proportionate premium for every 6.1 per cent rise in recovery above the basic levy for 1986-87 season.

(ii) Advance announcement of statutory minimum price for 1987-88 season at Rs. 18 per quintal linked to recovery of 8.5 per cent.

(iii) A rebate in Excise-duty for early crushing during the month of October and November, 1986 in excess of average quantity produced during corresponding period in preceding two seasons.

(iv) A rebate in excise duty for late crushing during May and June 1987 in excess of the average production during corresponding period of the last three seasons.

(v) Change in ratio of levy and free sale sugar from 55:45 to 50:50?

Construction of Dams in Orissa

2399. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any long term and short term plan for construction